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ACTION EUR-12

MADRID 02374 240926Z

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(29) (R)

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 OPR-02 CIAE-00 EB-08  
DODE-00 H-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 SSO-00 SY-05  
TRSE-00 PM-07 PA-01 PER-01 DCT-02 CCO-00 OMB-01  
INRE-00 OCS-06 CA-01 ANAE-00 ACDA-12 A-02 ICAE-00  
SYE-00 SP-02 OC-06 PLE-00 SPRS-02 /097 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2107

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
IM/IPS/CR/IR Date: 9/10/97  
() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY  
() EXCISE () DECLASSIFY EO Citations  
() DENY IN PART

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FOIA Exemptions  
PA Exemptions  
() CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C Sec.  
() DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINT SP, PINS

SUBJECT: SITREP: TAKEOVER OF SPANISH CONGRESS OF  
- DEPUTIES - STALEMATE CONTINUES

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AS OF 0900 HOURS THE SITUATION IN SPAIN REMAINS  
ONE OF NORMALCY IN ALL AREAS, INCLUDING VALENCIA.  
GOVERNMENT IS IN FULL CONTROL, ALTHOUGH STANDOFF AT  
CORTES CONTINUES.

3. CALM TENSENESS IN MADRID. IN MADRID, THE CORTES  
BUILDING REMAINS SURROUNDED BY NATIONAL POLICE,  
MILITARY POLICE AND SPECIAL ELEMENTS OF THE GUARDIA  
CIVIL. THE PERPETRATOR OF THE COUP ATTEMPT, LT.COL.  
TEJERO, HAS SHOWN NO SIGNS OF SURRENDERING. THE RADIO  
HAS CARRIED REPORTS THAT THE FORCES SURROUNDING THE  
CORTES MAY BE CONSIDERING AN ASSAULT, BUT THERE ARE  
NO, REPEAT NO, INDICATIONS THAT SUCH AN ASSAULT IS

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ACTUALLY IMMINENT, NOR ARE THERE ANY SIGNS OF ACTIVE  
NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME. AT APPROXIMATELY 0815  
HOURS, EMBASSY PERSONNEL OBSERVED FOUR ARMORED  
PERSONNEL CARRIERS MOVING DOWN THE CASTELLANA  
BOULEVARD IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CORTES.

4. REGIONS QUIET. A CHECK WITH THE  
IN BILBAO, BARCELONA, SEVILLE, VALENCIA AT 0830  
REVEALS CALM IN ALL REGIONS. THE WORKERS COMMISSIONS  
(C.C.O.O.) IN BARCELONA CALLED LAST NIGHT FOR  
A 48-HOUR STRIKE AND GENERALITAT  
PRESIDENT JORDI PUJOL ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO  
DISSUADE THEM FROM TAKING SUCH ACTION. SUBSEQUENTLY,

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THE CIVIL GOVERNOR IN CATALONIA PUT A BAN ON ALL DEMONSTRATIONS. CONGEN BARCELONA REPORTS THE SITUATION THERE IS NORMAL WITH NO EVVDENCE OF ANY DEMONSTRATIONS.

5. FOUR RELEASED/ONE ESCAPES. AS OF 12:30 A.M. MADRID HOSPITALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THREE DEPUTIES AND ONE SENATOR (WHO WAS VISITING THE CONGRESS CHAMBER) HAVE BEEN ADMITTED AND TREATED FOR VARYING MALADIES. ONE SOCIALIST DEPUTY ESCAPED EARLY IN THE SIEGE. THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION THAT ANY DEPUTY WAS ADMITTED FOR TREATMENT OF WOUNDS. RADIO REPORTS STATE THAT THE SPANISH RED CROSS HAS PROVIDED SOME MEDICINE AND TRANQUILIZERS TO THE DEPUTIES BEING HELD.

6. BORDERS OPEN. TELEPHONE CONTACT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH CUSTOMS AT THE BADAJOZ BORDER CROSSING WITH PORTUGAL. OFFICIAL ON DUTY STATED THAT THE BORDER WAS OPEN FOR REGULAR TRAFFIC. FRENCH BORDER IS ALSO

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OPEN.

7. SENATE. LATE FEBRUARY 24 THE MESA (COUNCIL WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS) OF THE SPANISH SENATE ANNOUNCED THAT THE SENATE "WHILE THESE CIRCUMSTANCES LAST, EXERCISE POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY AND SUPPORT WHATEVER ACTIONS MAY BE CARRIED OUT IN DEFENSE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND DEMOCRATIC NORMALITY."

8. STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT. RADIO REPORTS ARE GIVING FAVORABLE COVERAGE TO STATEMENT BY UNIDENTIFIED STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCE IN WASHINGTON WHO REPORTEDLY RECONFIRMED U.S. SUPPORT FOR SPANISH DEMOCRACY AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SEIZURE OF CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES WAS ONLY A SERIOUS EPISODE WHICH WOULD NOT IMPEDE SPAIN'S CONSOLIDATION OF ITS DEMOCRACY.

9. NATIONAL POLICE REPORTEDLY ENTERED OFFICES OF ULTRA-RIGHT MADRID DAILY "EL ALCAZAR" AND SEIZED TODAY'S EDITION. SUBDIRECTOR OF THE PAPER COMPLAINED THAT THE POLICE DID NOT HAVE A WARRANT FOR THE SEIZURE. WITHIN THE PAST SIX WEEKS "EL ALCAZAR" HAS PUBLISHED A SERIES OF SIGNED AND UNSIGNED ARTICLES DENOUNCING POLITICIANS FOR DESTROYING THE UNITY AND TRADITIONAL VALUES OF SPAIN AND PRESENTING THINLY VEILED CALLS FOR MILITARY INTERVENTION.

10. TWA AT BARAJAS AIRPORT HAS CONFIRMED THAT INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ON TWA AND OTHER CARRIERS ARE ARRIVING AND DEPARTING ON NORMAL SCHEDULES.

TODMAN

03:10:47:00  
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